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402-391-4448

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10328 PINEHURST AVE.  
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June 30, 2004

Commissioner for Patents  
Box: 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

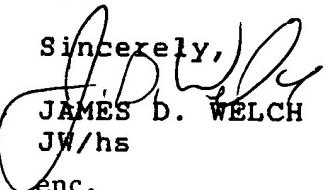
RE: APPLICATION SERIAL NO. 10/718,126 of NIKOONAHAD ET AL.,  
FILED ON BEHALF OF KLA-TENCOR;  
WHICH 126 APPLICATION CLAIMS BENEFIT OF PROVISIONAL  
APPLICATION SERIAL NO. 60/429,441 FILED 11/26/02.

Dear Sir;

My Client has become aware of the identified Application via  
Publication of PCT 03037939/US.

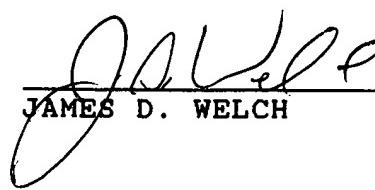
Applicant want to make sure that the Examiner is aware of  
the Application of Woollam et al., Serial No. 10/376,677 which  
Claims Benefit of Provisional Application Serial No. 60/427,043  
which was Filed 11/18/02. It is believed that the 126  
Application Claims material similar to that disclosed in the 043  
Provisional Application of Woollam et al. In particular note  
that said 043 Provisional Application Filing Date of 11/18/02  
predates the 441 Provisional Application Filing Date of 11/26/02.

Service of this letter has not been made on the Attorney for  
the 126 Application, as the Woollam et al., 677 and 043  
Applications are not published and remain confidential.

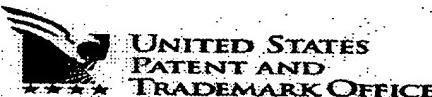
Sincerely,  
  
JAMES D. WELCH  
JW/hs  
enc.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS TRANSMITTAL IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH  
THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE WITH SUFFICIENT POSTAGE FOR  
FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR  
PATENTS, BOX: 1450, ALEXANDRIA VA. 22313-1450 ON THE DATE  
INDICATED BELOW.

 7/2004  
JAMES D. WELCH

DATE



Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING DATE	GRP ART UNIT	FIL FEE RECD	ATTY.DOCKET.NO	DRAWINGS	TOT CLAIMS	IND CLAIMS
60/427,043	11/18/2002	80				2	

JAMES D. WELCH  
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b eat/  
11/26/2002

CONFIRMATION NO. 3174

**FILING RECEIPT**



\*OC00000009381708\*

Date Mailed: 01/16/2003

Receipt is acknowledged of this provisional Patent Application. It will not be examined for patentability and will become abandoned not later than twelve months after its filing date. Be sure to provide the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION when inquiring about this application. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please write to the Office of Initial Patent Examination's Filing Receipt Corrections, facsimile number 703-746-9195. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections (if appropriate).

**Applicant(s)**

John A. Woollam, Lincoln, NE;

**If Required, Foreign Filing License Granted:** 01/15/2003

**Projected Publication Date:** None, application is not eligible for pre-grant publication

**Non-Publication Request:** No

**Early Publication Request:** No

**\*\* SMALL ENTITY \*\***

**Title**

Controlling ambient atmosphere during investigation of sample therewith using electromagnetic radiation

**LICENSE FOR FOREIGN FILING UNDER  
Title 35, United States Code, Section 184  
Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, 5.11 & 5.15**

**GRANTED**

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UNITED STATES  
PATENT AND  
TRADEMARK OFFICE



OMNI-1

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APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING DATE	GRP ART UNIT	FIL FEE REC'D	ATTY.DOCKET.NO	DRAWINGS	TOT CLAIMS	IND CLAIMS
10/376,677	02/28/2003	2877	1080		9	47	14

### CONFIRMATION NO. 2836

JAMES D. WELCH  
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### FILING RECEIPT



\*OC000000009934508\*

Date Mailed: 04/30/2003

Receipt is acknowledged of this regular Patent Application. It will be considered in its order and you will be notified as to the results of the examination. Be sure to provide the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION when inquiring about this application. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please write to the Office of Initial Patent Examination's Filing Receipt Corrections, facsimile number 703-746-9195. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections (if appropriate).

### Applicant(s)

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### Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant

This application is a CIP of 09/531,877 03/21/2000 PAT 6,535,286  
and is a CIP of 10/178,723 06/24/2002  
and is a CIP of 09/583,229 05/30/2000  
and is a CIP of 09/864,840 05/24/2001 PAT 6,456,376  
and is a CIP of 09/845,548 04/30/2001 \*  
and claims benefit of 60/424,589 11/07/2002  
and claims benefit of 60/427,043 11/18/2002  
and claims benefit of 60/431,489 12/06/2002 *now abandoned*

(\*Data provided by applicant is not consistent with PTO records.

### Foreign Applications

If Required, Foreign Filing License Granted: 04/30/2003

Projected Publication Date: Request for Non-Publication Acknowledged

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